



**ELEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Faleata Sports Complex, Apia, Samoa  
1-5 December 2014

---

**DRAFT Proposed work plan to progress WCPFC's consideration of a management framework as proposed by MOW3**

---

**WCPFC11-2014-12b  
3 December 2014**

**Secretariat**

## **Draft proposed work plan to progress WCPFC's consideration of a management framework as proposed by MOW3**

To successfully continue this work will require that objectives and associated management approaches are comprehensively examined, tested, compared and that a wide range of options is developed in order to inform negotiations and facilitate the achievement of agreement on binding and effective measures. Suggestions for management approaches should be driven by CCMs, noting that this work must not undermine the in-zone management arrangements that CCMs, and especially members of PNA, have developed, or are developing. The intention is that under the compatibility principle, these arrangements must be given due recognition in undertaking the analysis proposed under this work plan.

The benefits and costs of different management options will need careful consideration, with attention given to the burden of conservation and in particular, avoidance of disproportional burden on SIDS as per Article 30 of the Convention and time-frames for implementation.

Success will also require that the options are examined in a transparent and participatory process so that all CCMs have input and engagement with the testing and comparison of candidate harvest strategies. To support the work necessary to underpin negotiation and agreement of a framework for establishing harvest strategies at the Commission the following approach, to be implemented over a three-year period, is suggested.

The current proposed budget to support this work focuses on three main areas:

<b>Work area</b>	<b>Budget (USD)</b>		
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
1. Technical support from the Scientific Service Provider (SSP)	160,000	160,000	160,000
2. External experts to support the scientific process <sup>1</sup>	50,000	30,000	
3. WCPFC level meetings to review and direct the work <sup>2</sup>	100,000		
	<b>310,000</b>	<b>190,000</b>	<b>160,000</b>

It is understood that the FAO Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) project could provide funding for work area 3 above.

The purpose of this short paper is to provide further details of what tasks could be undertaken in 1-3 above. We provide this in the context of a three-year plan in the first instance with specific deliverables identified for each year and consideration of the key fisheries. Activities and deliverables relate to the SSP unless otherwise noted.

---

<sup>1</sup> There is no intention to establish an expert group to discuss and direct fisheries management-related work areas, it is proposed that technical MSE practitioners be included to provide advice to the SSP as necessary.

<sup>2</sup> A WCPFC level meeting (e.g., and MOW-like meeting) is proposed only for 2015. At this stage there should be a review of the utility of further meetings of that nature.

Year	Southern longline fishery (key species is ALB plus important contributions from BET, YFT, SWO and others)	Tropical purse seine fishery (SKJ with impacts for BET and YFT)	Tropical fisheries for bigeye and yellowfin tuna (longline and purse seine fishery in the first instance)
2015	<p>Workshop of technical experts to assist SPC in technical matters relating to the design of the Management Strategy Evaluation, e.g., operating vs. estimation models and robustness testing. Meeting could be held in the margins of the annual Pre-assessment Workshop.</p> <p>Structuring of the new South Pacific albacore assessment to allow evaluation of Harvest Control Rules against possible management objectives</p> <p>Compilation of additional economic information from key longline fisheries</p> <p>Development of a small number of simple catch based Harvest Control Rules (HCRs)</p> <p>Papers on Harvest Control Rules using the new assessment</p>	<p>Development of alternative options for purse seine dynamics in the MULTIFAN-CL software, i.e., different models for how fishing success changes with stock abundance</p> <p>Papers on alternative purse seine dynamic formulations demonstrating impacts on alternative PS dynamics with some simple examples</p> <p>Consultation with Stakeholders e.g., Harvest Strategy Workshop (HSW), MOW4 or Working Group</p>	
2016	<p>Updated analysis of economic (target) reference points for the southern longline fishery</p> <p>Further refinement of potential Harvest Control Rules based on feedback received in 2015</p> <p>Papers on economic-based target reference points and Harvest Control Rules</p>	To be confirmed	<p>Workshop of technical experts to assist SPC in technical matters relating to the design HCRs in multi-species and multi-gear fisheries. Meeting could be held in the margins of the annual Pre-assessment Workshop.</p> <p>Paper on the conceptual approach for designing harvest control rules to cover the multiple gears exploiting yellowfin and bigeye tuna</p>
2017	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Development of simple harvest control rules for bigeye and yellowfin

In preparing this table we noted the following assumptions:

- Funding would need to be confirmed within the first quarter of 2015 to allow the delivery of the work planned for this year

- Funding and assistance to support these activities outside the Commission budget could be considered which may assist with various elements of the work plan, such as from an NGO or the EU proposed funding of 50,000 Euros for a workshop and/or technical assistance for MSE work from other sources, e.g., the EU.
- It is best practice to get preliminary analyses in front of the stakeholders to get feedback to allow further work before any decision is made.
- The work would require working closely with key stakeholders in each fishery and with the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency and WCPFC bodies. As an example PNA would be a key stakeholders driving the proposed work on the tropical purse seine fishery.
- Depending on funding, work undertaken here could also be presented at non-WCPFC forums.